

THE FUNCTIONS OF HAVE IN ENGLISH

by Alice C. Pack

Present forms

Past forms

He (She, It)	has	He (She, It)	had
I (You, We, They)	have	I (You, We, They)	had

1-A HAVE as the main verb:

1. Verb Alone. (The verb HAVE takes a noun object).

Subject	Verb	Object
He	has	a car
She	has	a cold
They	had	a fight
I	have	the books
They	have	money

2. With a modal and verb. (Use base form of HAVE after a modal).

Subject	Ver	Object	
Subject	Modal	Verb - HAVE	Object
He	may	have	a car
She	might	have	a cold
I	should	have	the books
They	must	have	money
They	will	have	a fight.

3. With the auxiliary HAVE. (Use past participle form of HAVE (had) after the auxiliary HAVE')

Subject	A	Auxiliary HAVE	Verb (P.P.)	Object
He		has	had	a car.
She		has	had	a cold.
I		have	had	the books.
They		have	had	money.
They		had	had	a fight.

4. With a Modal and auxiliary HAVE (Use base form of auxiliary HAVE after a modal and the past participle form of the verb after HAVE).

Subject	Modal	Auxiliary HAVE	Verb (P.P) HAVE	Object
He	might	have	had	a car
She	could	have	had	a cold.
I	should	have	had	the books last week.
They	must	have	had	money.
They	could	have	had	a fight.

(continued on page 10)

The Functions of Have in English

(continued from page 7)

5. With auxiliary BE. (Using form of verb (having) after BE).

Subject	Be	(-ing form)	Object
She	is	having	a good time.
He	is	having	a haircut.
We	are	having	a party.
They	are	having	trouble with their car.
They	are	having	a fight.
We	were	having	fun.

6. With modal and auxiliary BE. (Use base form of BE after a modal, -ing form of HAVE after BE).

Subject	Modal	Auxiliary BE	Verb-HAVE (-ing form)	Object
She	could	be	having	a good time.
He	should	be	having	a haircut.
You	must	be	having	a party.
They	might	be	having	trouble with their car.
They	could	be	having	a fight.
They	will	be	having	dinner here.

7. With auxiliaries HAVE and BE. (Use past participle of BE (been) after HAVE and -ing form of verb (having) after BE).

Subject	Auxiliary HAVE	Auxiliary BE (P.P.)	Verb - HAVE (-ing form)	Object
She	has	been	having	a good time.
They	have	been	having	trouble with their car
He	has	been	having	a party every week.
They	had	been	having	a fight.

8. With modal, auxiliaries HAVE and BE. (Use base form of HAVE after a modal, past participle of BE (been) after HAVE, and -ing form of verb after BE).

Subject	Modal	Auxiliary HAVE (P.P.)	Auxiliary BE (P.P.)	Verb (-ing form)	Object
She	could	have	been	having	a good time.
He	could	have	been	having	a haircut.
They	might	have	been	having	trouble with their car.
You	must	have	been	having	a party.
She	might	have	been	having	her dinner.
They	might	have	been	having	a fight.

II. HAVE as an auxiliary:

I. HAVE as an auxiliary is always followed by the past participle of the verb which follows.

Subject	Auxiliary	Verb (p.p.)	
He	has	read	the book several times.
We	have	finished	our work.
You	haven't	done	your assignment.
I	have	completed	the task.
I	had	attended	school in my own country before I came here.

(continued on page 16)

HAVE IN ENGLISH

(continued from page 10)

2. If the auxiliary BE is used with the auxiliary HAVE, the past participle of BE is used following the form HAVE. (The -ing form of the verb follows BEEN).

Subject	Auxiliary	Be (p.p.)	Verb (-ing form)	
They	have	been	taking	a test for the past hour.
He	has	been	reading	that book for a long time.
You	haven't	been	working	on your assignment.

3

3. The simple form of the auxiliary HAVE is used if a modal is used.

Subject	Modal	Auxiliary	Verb (p.p.)	
We	could	have	gone	to town with them.
You	should	have	done	your assignment.
I	may	have	forgotten	the address.

The third article of this series 'The Functions of Do and Can in English' will appear in the next issue.



TESL REPORTER

A quarterly publication of the English Language Institute and the BATESL program of The Church College of Hawaii.

Editor Alice C. Pack
 Articles relevant to teaching English as a second language in Hawaii, the South Pacific and Asia, may be submitted to the editor through Box 157, The Church College of Hawaii 96762. Manuscripts should be double-spaced and typed, not exceeding six pages.

TESL REPORTER

BOX 157

The Church College of Hawaii

Laie, Hawaii 96762

Non-profit Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Laie, Hawaii
 PERMIT NO. 1